

AN AMERICAN MILLIONAIRE'S MEAL.—Mr Cornelius Vanderbilt celebrated his fiftieth birthday in the last week of December by a private dinner at Pinard's. The appreciative reporters who were admitted to view the dinner table are eloquent in their description of the lavish magnificence of the floral decorations. One or two details mentioned about this transatlantic millionaire's meal may not be uninteresting to those who are addicted to dining out in this country. The menus were in the form of a folding tablet fringed with cardinal silk. The bonbonnaries were of gros-grain silk, each of a different colour, trimmed with chenille down, and tied with a heavy ribbon of the same. The dinner cards were of different coloured satin, hand-decorated, tied with ribbons, holding in place an embossed card with the printed name of the guest. What most excited the admiration of the reporters was what they describe as the very beautiful and unique floral decoration which was provided for each lady. This was in the form of an easel; a perforated tortoise-shell horse-shoe, supporting a highly-polished elk's hoof, which was filled with rare and costly flowers. Pinard, it seems, had been given carte blanche for this occasion, and Pinard proved himself worthy of the confidence of Vanderbilt.

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